

Standoff Holder and Standoff Pad for Ultrasound Probe  
Serial Number: 10/695,988

**Amendments to CLAIMS:**

**Claims 1- 12 Canceled – on pages 17 – 19 of Specification (remove claims 1-12)**

**NEW Claims – 13- 20– Add new 13-20 claim as written below (to Pages 17 – 19 of specification)**

**NEW CLAIMS 13-20**

**Please add NEW Claims 13 -20 as follows:**

[000013]

A standoff holder for an ultrasound transducer probe used in diagnostic ultrasound exams or therapeutic ultrasound treatment to insure coupling with a body comprising:  
an elongated elastic sock for mounting over a probe including an acoustic window comprising a first open end and a second end and an internal aperture extending therethrough, wherein,  
said first open end includes an expansion collar including a plurality of spaced rigid strips mounted circumferentially about said probe including said acoustic window.

[00014]

A standoff holder in accordance with Claim 1 wherein:  
the spaced rigid strips are separated by elastic sock forming a plurality of expansion ribs and said elastic sock comprises a series of parallel axial ribs of elastic material.

[00015]

A standoff holder in accordance with Claim 2 wherein:  
the elastic sock comprises material with decreasing flexibility and increasing

Standoff Holder and Standoff Pad for Ultrasound Probe  
Serial Number: 10/695,988

rigidity from the second open end to the expansion collar at the first open end.

[00016]

A standoff holder in accordance with Claim 1 wherein:

The rigid strips in the collar comprise a spaced plurality of axial plastic strips.

[00017]

A standoff holder in accordance with Claim 1 wherein:

the cross-sectional configuration of the elastic sock is round when unmounted on a probe.

[00018]

A standoff holder in accordance with Claim 1 wherein;

the cross-sectional shape of the elastic sock conforms to the shape of the probe when mounted.

[00019]

A standoff holder in accordance with Claim 1 further including:

a gel insert removably mounted and self-adjusting within the ribbed collar.

[00020]

A standoff holder for an ultrasonic transducer probe used in diagnostic ultrasound exams or therapeutic ultrasonic treatments to insure coupling with a body comprising:

an elastic collar for mounting over the external surface of a probe having a first open end and a second open end and an internal aperture extending therethrough to accommodate the shape of said probe including an acoustic window on said probe;

said elastic collar mounted about said probe and extending outwardly from said

Standoff Holder and Standoff Pad for Ultrasound Probe  
Serial Number: 10/695,988

acoustic window; and, a gel insert removably mounted and self-adjusting with said collar in engagement with said probe's acoustic window and extending outwardly therefrom.

Standoff Holder and Standoff Pad for Ultrasound Probe  
Serial Number: 10/695,988

**Request Under MPEP 707.07(j) form is attached asking for the examiner to help construct 1 or more claims if applicant's claims are not suitable.**

**THE APPLICATION IS IN PROPER ORDER.**

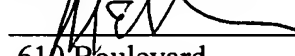
**END OF RESPONSE to Notice of NON-Compliant AMMENDMENT**

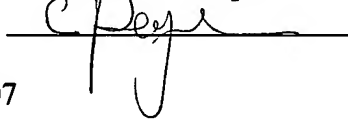
If for any reason this application is not to be believed to be in full condition for allowance, applicants respectfully request the constructive assistance and suggestions of the examiner pursuant to M.P.E.P. 2173.02 and 707.07 in order that the undersigned can place this application in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Very respectfully,

Martin Wendelken,

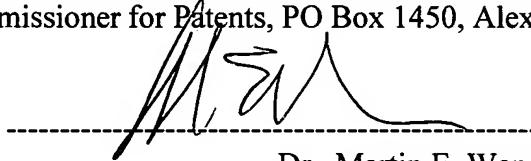
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Certificate of Mailing: I certify that on the date below this document and referenced attachments, if any will be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450"

Date Aug. 19, 2005

  
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Dr. Martin E. Wendelken